

image
210
DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN



Golden



JON GOFF

Plot

TODD McFARLANE

Additional Plot

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LETTERING

PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Twitch gives Jim insight into Al Simmons' past, which he hopes provides the answers Jim's looking for. Instead, he frustrates him more. Twitch suggests looking for an overlap in both the Hellspawns' pasts, calming Jim.

Back at the hospital, Twitch learns of the nurse's suicide, and becomes concerned when the detectives on the case note some suspicions with Rowand's alibi.

In the aftermath of the suicide, Clown visits the morgue to express his displeasure with the demon inhabiting the nurse's body. Her one job was to watch over Sam, and make sure Hell didn't get to what he was hiding. Left with an unusable body, Clown must now replace it with a new vessel, and the outcome will be highly unexpected!

JON GOFF

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SPAWN CREATED BY
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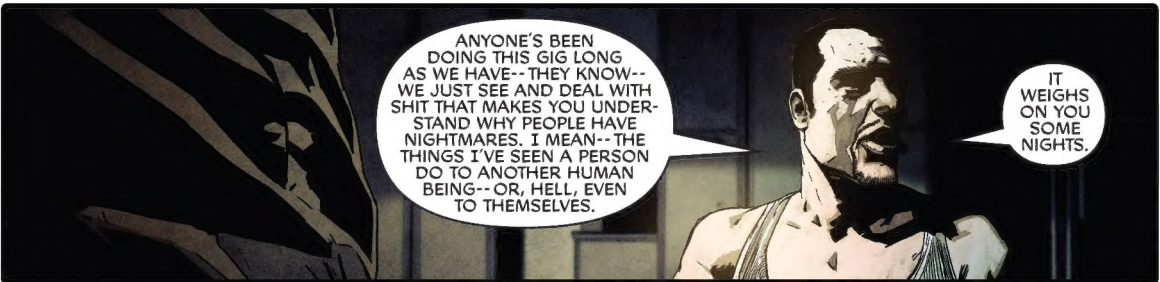
TODD McFARLANE
PRODUCTIONS

SPAWN.COM

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YOU WANT TO
KNOW WHAT'S IRONIC
ABOUT ALL OF THIS?
I THOUGHT I WAS LONG
PAST BEING SURPRISED
AT ANYTHING.



ANYONE'S BEEN
DOING THIS GIG LONG
AS WE HAVE-- THEY KNOW--
WE JUST SEE AND DEAL WITH
SHIT THAT MAKES YOU UNDER-
STAND WHY PEOPLE HAVE
NIGHTMARES. I MEAN-- THE
THINGS I'VE SEEN A PERSON
DO TO ANOTHER HUMAN
BEING-- OR, HELL, EVEN
TO THEMSELVES.

IT
WEIGHS
ON YOU
SOME
NIGHTS.



WE CAN'T
BE TORTURED
BY THE CRUEL
ACTS OF
OTHERS.

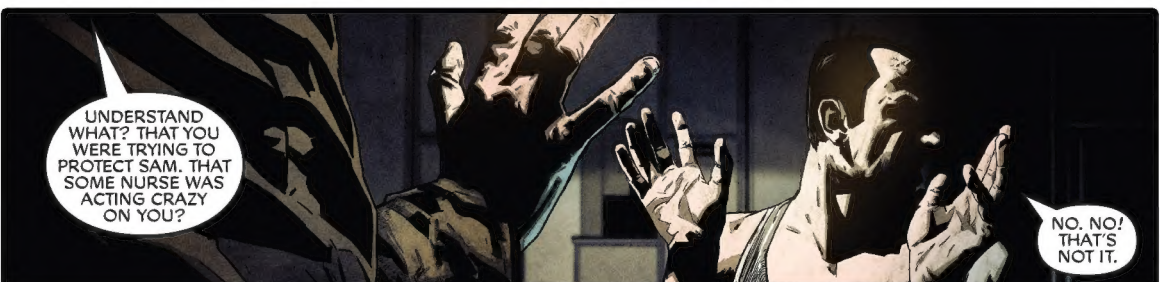
THIS
WASN'T
'OTHERS'! IT
WAS ME!

I SHOT
HER! I
PULLED THE
TRIGGER!



I UNDER-
STAND. THE
QUESTION YOU
NEED TO COME
TO GRIPS WITH
IS 'WHY'?
WHAT DROVE
YOU TO IT?

YOU
WOULDN'T
UNDER-
STAND.



UNDERSTAND
WHAT? THAT YOU
WERE TRYING TO
PROTECT SAM. THAT
SOME NURSE WAS
ACTING CRAZY
ON YOU?

NO, NO!
THAT'S
NOT IT.



THEN WHAT?
TELL ME-- WHAT
IN GOD'S NAME
WOULD MAKE YOU
UNLOAD YOUR GUN
ON AN UNARMED
WOMAN?



MY
INSTINCTS!

DO YOU KNOW
HOW MANY YEARS
I'VE PUT INTO THIS
CAREER? HOW MUCH
TIME I'VE SPENT CHASING
DOWN THE F@*KING DREGS
OF SOCIETY--PUTTING MY
LIFE ON THE LINE-- SO THE
COURTS CAN SLAP THEM
ON THE WRIST AND LET
'EM DO IT ALL OVER
AGAIN?

EVEN WORSE?
THEY SOMEHOW
ALL FIND A DATE. THEN
EVENTUALLY PROCREATE.
BRINGING A BUNCH OF
KIDS INTO AN ENVIRONMENT
THAT THEY'LL NEVER
HAVE A CHANCE OF
ESCAPING.

I'M
MISSING
YOUR
POINT.

NO YOU'RE
NOT... YOU'VE
DONE THE SAME
THING. THE ONLY WAY
WE'VE SURVIVED THIS
LONG IS BECAUSE OF OUR
INSTINCTS! THEY TELL US
WHEN WE SHOULD
CHARGE IN AND WHEN
WE SHOULD HOLD
BACK OR BE
SUSPICIOUS.

WELL,
THAT'S WHAT
HAPPENED AT THE
HOSPITAL.

EVERY FIBER
IN MY BODY WAS
SCREAMING-- "SOME-
THING'S NOT RIGHT!" THAT
SOMETHING WAS MESSED
UP! SO NOW I'M SITTING HERE
WAITING FOR OTHERS TO
DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH MY
CAREER BECAUSE IF I TELL
THEM THE TRUTH, THEY'LL
TAKE MY BADGE AWAY
IN A SECOND!

SO--
WHERE'S
THAT LEAVE
ME?



HERE'S HOW YOU SOLVE IT--

YOU LIE.

YOU'RE GOING TO TELL THEM THAT YOU MISSPOKE. I'VE READ THE INITIAL REPORT, DETECTIVE ROWAND-- THE WRITE UP OF YOUR STATEMENTS TO THE FIRST RESPONDING OFFICER. IN IT YOU MENTION-- AND I'M QUOTING HERE-- "SHE WASN'T HUMAN."

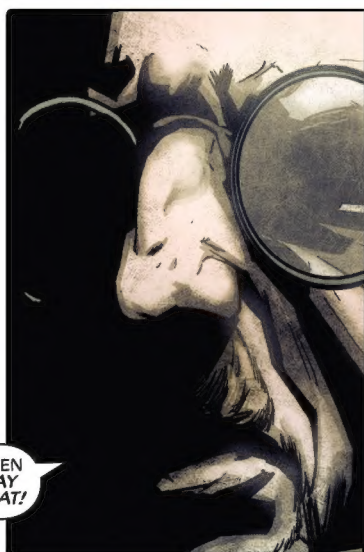
DO YOU KNOW HOW THAT SOUNDS-- "WASN'T HUMAN?"



LOOK-- I WAS... I WAS STILL OUT OF IT. STILL AMPED UP AND I-- MAYBE I WAS A BIT OVERLY-DRAMATIC-- OR... I DON'T KNOW. I JUST--



THEN SAY THAT!



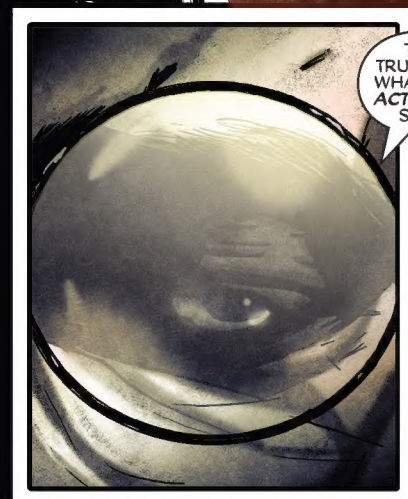
KEEP TELLING THEM YOU WERE RUNNING ON ADRENALINE. THAT "SHE WASN'T HUMAN" MEANS "OUT OF HER MIND." AND THAT "SHE ALTERED HER BODY" MEANT "SHE WAS INDESCRIBABLY VIOLENT." DEFINE YOUR STATEMENTS IN WAYS THEY'LL UNDERSTAND.

BECAUSE RIGHT NOW THE PRELIMINARY BLOODWORK ON THE DEAD HOSPITAL WORKERS AND NURSE'S CORPSE SEEMS TO BACK UP YOUR STORY. IF IT HOLDS UP YOU SHOULD BE IN THE CLEAR WITH REGARDS TO ANY WRONG-DOING IN THE STAFF MURDERS-- WHICH IS THE BIGGER ISSUE AT PLAY HERE. THERE'LL BE CONSEQUENCES FOR YOUR ACTIONS BUT AT LEAST TRY AND MINIMIZE THE DAMAGE TO YOUR CAREER.

SO TELL THEM WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?





THE TRUTH. OF WHAT YOU ACTUALLY SAW.

THE NURSE-- AFTER SHE JUMPED ME, SHE RAN DOWN THE HALL TO THE STAIRWELL. LIKE SOME BROKEN WIND-UP TOY. AND BEFORE YOU SAY IT, IT WASN'T BECAUSE SHE WAS SHOT. SHE WAS-- I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT, BUT SHE MOVED LIKE A HUMAN CRAB OR SOMETHING.

BY THE TIME I GOT TO THE ROOF SHE SEEMED NORMAL. THEN JUST BEFORE SHE JUMPED HER FACE CHANGED. I WAS TELLING MYSELF THAT IT WAS JUST THE SITUATION, THAT THE LIGHTS WERE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME.

THEN SHE JUMPED.

I KNOW IT WAS DARK AND SHE WAS TWISTING IN HER FALL. BUT...

BUT I SWEAR, FOR JUST A HEARTBEAT, I SAW SOMETHING. AND WHEN I DID-- AND THIS IS GOING TO SOUND CRAZY-- I COULD FEEL EVIL.

AT MY VERY CORE I FELT IT.




I BELIEVE YOU.

WHAT? WHY? IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.



BECAUSE I'VE FELT IT TOO.



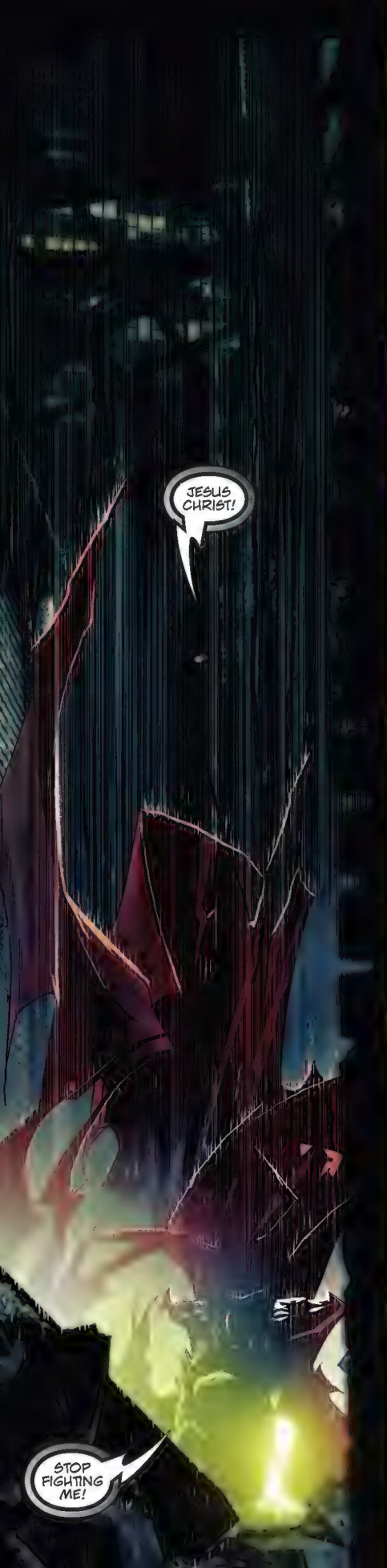
"AND THOUGH MOST PEOPLE THINK
IT'S JUST THE STRESS IN THEIR LIFE, OR
THEIR OVERACTIVE IMAGINATION IN
THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT-- IT DOESN'T
MEAN THE EVIL ISN'T THERE.

"OR THAT A BOOGEYMAN
DOESN'T ACTUALLY EXIST."









JESUS
CHRIST!

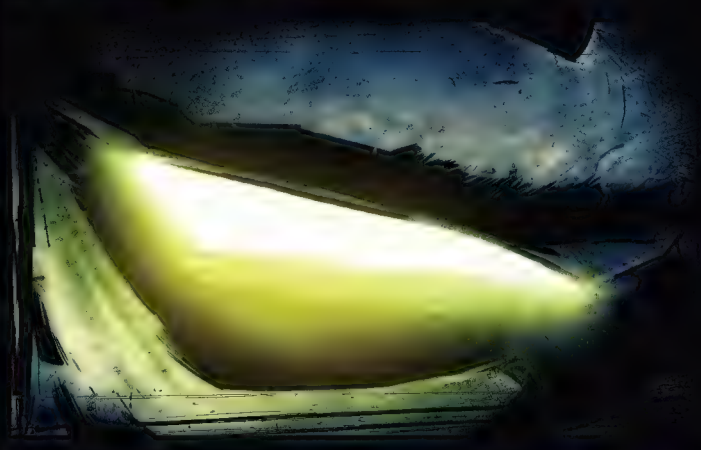
STOP
FIGHTING
ME!



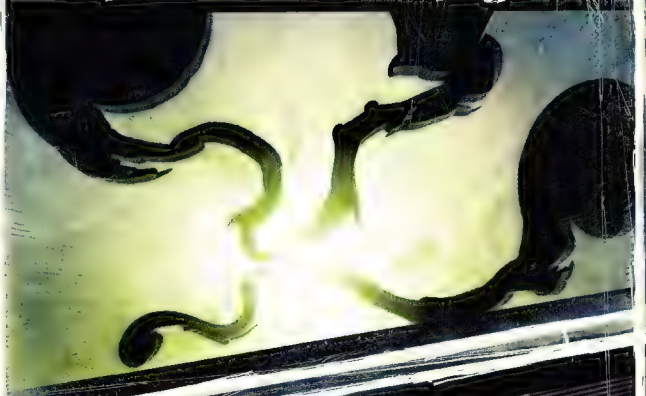
SOMEHOW,
MY SUIT--
IT REACTED
TO SAM.



AS IF IT
WAS PULLING
BACK FROM
HIM.



LIKE IT
WAS
AFRAID.



THIS
IS...




CRAZY!!



I'M...
IN...



CONTROL!



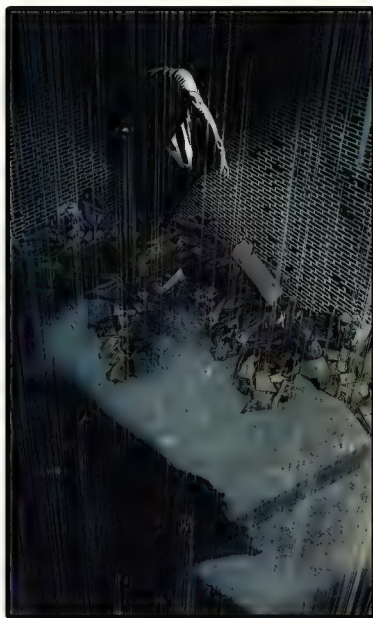
**NOT
YOU!!**

I
DON'T
WANT THIS
ANY-
MORE!

NOW GO
AWAY!



Just...
go
away.



DID YOU SEE HOW
CONFUSED HE WAS? HE'S
FIGHTING THE SYMBIOTE
LIKE HE STILL DOESN'T
KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING
TO HIM.

THAT'S THE SECOND
TIME WE'VE SEEN THAT. CLOWN
SAID THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
THE QUESTION IS, DO WE LET
ANYONE KNOW?

WHO YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
CLOWN OR
BLUDD?

BOTH OF THEM. AT
LEAST ONE OF THEM IS GOING
TO EXPECT SOME TYPE OF FEED-
BACK, THOUGH I'M NOT INCLINED TO
LET THEM KNOW WE HAD TO
REGENERATE OURSELVES.

YOU THINK
SPAWN KNOWS WE'RE
MISSING?

HE'LL FIND OUT
SOON ENOUGH. I'M MORE
INTRIGUED BY HIS CURRENT
WEAKNESSES. THOSE CAN
BE EXPLOITED.

AND
WHAT OF
OUR BROTHER?
ARE WE JUST
GOING TO LEAVE
HIM TO ROT IN THE
DARKNESS
WHERE SPAWN
DRAGGED
HIM?

THE SHADOWS
AREN'T OUR REALM.
YOU KNOW THIS - AND
YOU ALSO KNOW OF THE
DANGER THAT WAITS ON
THE OTHER SIDE OF
THE LIGHT.

WE'LL
WAIT - AND
HOPE THE SPAWN
LEAVES US A
CRACK WE CAN
OPEN.



WHY'RE YOU DOING THIS, TWITCH?

DOING WHAT?



TRYING TO SAVE ME. TRYING TO CONVINCE ME I'M NOT CRAZY. WHY?



BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU SAW "SOMETHING," AND THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.

DESPITE THE FACT YOU DON'T HAVE ANY ACTUAL CLUE WHAT I SAW?



I HAVE MY SUSPICIONS, BUT YES-- I'M SAYING YOU SAW WHATEVER IT IS YOU SAW.

THAT'S IT? THAT'S ALL YOU NEED FROM ME? JUST MY WORD?

CORRECT.

YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHY.



BECAUSE I'VE BEEN IN YOUR SHOES AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET THE "SOMETHING," WHATEVER IT WAS, RUIN YOUR CAREER-- OR YOUR LIFE.

SO I'M WILLING TO HELP YOU FROM LOSING BOTH OF THOSE.



AND I'LL GIVE YOU
ANOTHER REASON-- ONE
THAT I HOPE NEVER COMES
TRUE-- IT'S SAM. IF HE
DOESN'T PULL THROUGH,
I CAN'T DO THIS ON MY OWN!
SO WHETHER YOU LIKE IT
OR NOT, YOU'RE GETTING
MY HELP.

HOPE I'M NOT
INTERRUPTING.



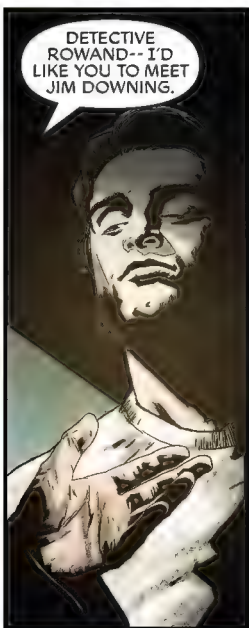
YOU SAID
WE WERE
GOING TO BE
ALONE.

WE
WERE.

um... JIM?!
WHAT'RE YOU
DOING HERE?
I NEVER TOLD
YOU TO...

HELLO,
TWITCH.

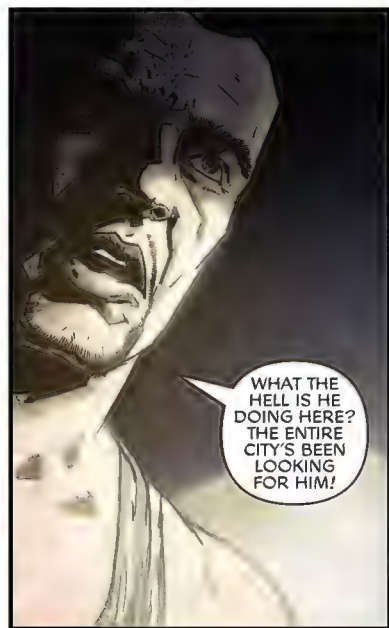
NEVER
MIND.



DETECTIVE
ROWAND-- I'D
LIKE YOU TO MEET
JIM DOWNING.



I KNOW
WHO
HE IS.



WHAT THE
HELL IS HE
DOING HERE?
THE ENTIRE
CITY'S BEEN
LOOKING
FOR HIM!



I HADN'T
HEARD HE'D
TURNED HIM-
SELF IN.

I HAVEN'T.

I'M HERE
TO SEE
TWITCH.



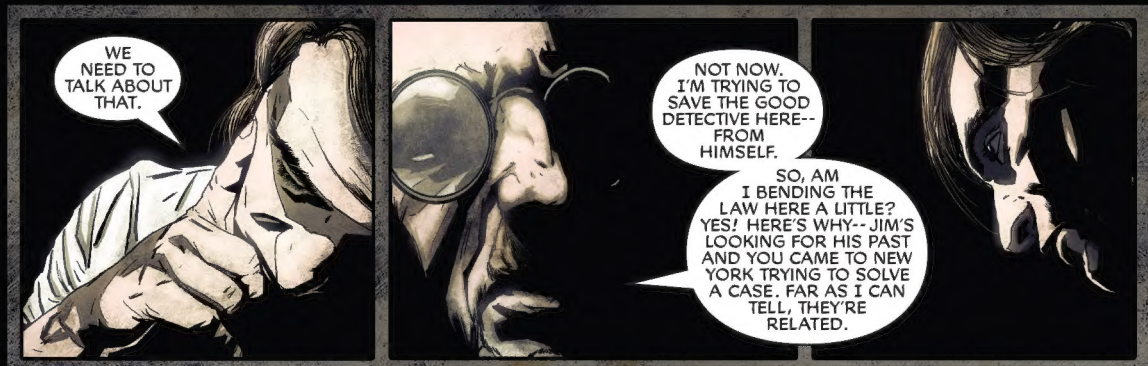
THIS IS
BULLSHIT!

HE SHOULDN'T
BE HERE! NOT NOW!
NOT WHEN I'VE GOT
MOST OF NEW YORK
LOOKING TO FRY MY ASS.
THE LAST THING I NEED
IS TO BE ACCUSED OF
HARBORING SOMEONE
WHO'S WANTED FOR
QUESTIONING.

I THOUGHT
YOU WERE
BETTER THAN
THIS, TWITCH.

HE
SAID HE'D
HELP SAM.

WITH HIS...
POWERS. YOU
SAW IT ON TV.
IN RETURN
I PROMISED TO
HELP HIM.



WE
NEED TO
TALK ABOUT
THAT.

NOT NOW.
I'M TRYING TO
SAVE THE GOOD
DETECTIVE HERE--
FROM
HIMSELF.

SO, AM
I BENDING THE
LAW HERE A LITTLE?
YES! HERE'S WHY-- JIM'S
LOOKING FOR HIS PAST
AND YOU CAME TO NEW
YORK TRYING TO SOLVE
A CASE. FAR AS I CAN
TELL, THEY'RE
RELATED.



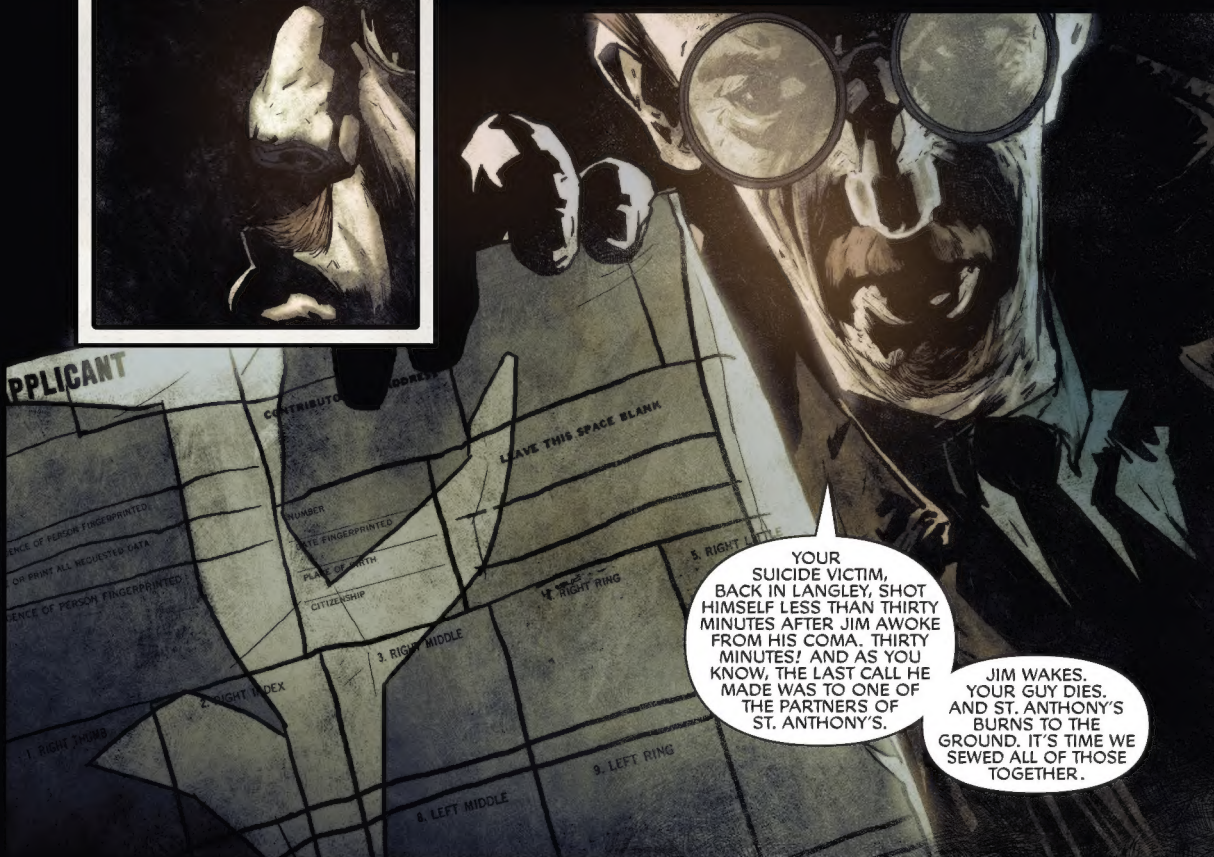
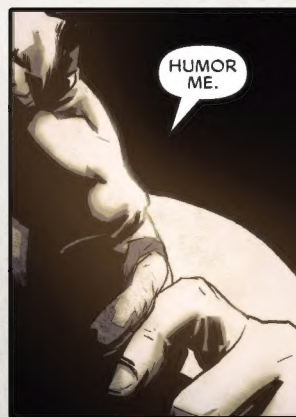
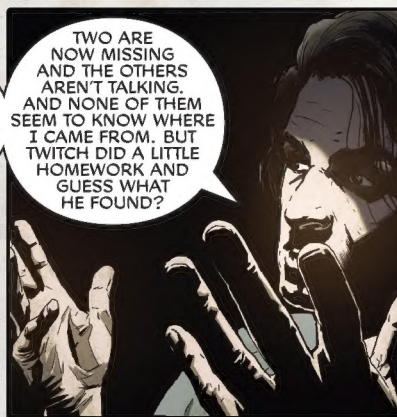
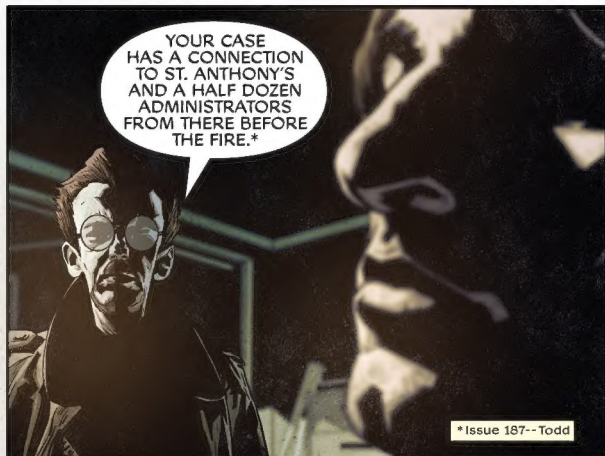
EVERY CLUE
WE'VE RUN INTO ON
YOUR CASE, FOR SOME
REASON OR ANOTHER,
KEEPS POINTING IN HIS
DIRECTION.

HOW AND
WHY? I HAVEN'T
FIGURED THAT
OUT YET.

BUT I THINK--
AND I MAY BE
WRONG-- BUT I
THINK THE DEAD ENDS
WE KEEP COMING UP
AGAINST IN YOUR
INVESTIGATIONS AND
THE BLANK SLATE THAT
IS MR. DOWNING'S
PAST--

I THINK
THEY'RE
CONNECTED.

YOU'RE
WALKING ON
THIN ICE HERE, BUT
MY OPTIONS SEEM
TO BE LIMITED.
SO...





"IT'S TIME WE FIND OUT WHO
JIM DOWNING *REALLY* IS!"





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE